(b) The works related to construction of parallel taxi track has been planned. In addition, expansion of existing apron requiring relocation of DVOR/Radar subject to transfer of land for this purpose by State Government has also been planned.

(c) The existing terminal building can handle both domestic and international operations. However, new apron to cater to aircraft parking requirements is under construction with expected date of completion by end December, 2008.

Cancellation of Delhi-Ahmedabad flight

2349. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for canceling regular evening flight from Delhi to Ahmedabad;

(b) whether it is a fact that this measure has been taken to favour private Airlines, who may get more passengers and earn business; and

(c) whether his Ministry is aware about the difficulties faced by Members of Parliament from Gujarat and other passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Air India's evening flights on the Delhi-Ahmedabad route have not been achieving good occupancy levels and hence temporarily suspended.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir. Air India is reviewing the situation.

Utilisation of surplus land with airports

2350. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to utilise surplus land available near airports for commercial purposes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) At most of the airports, the available land is either already taken up for aeronautical and related works or is committed therefor. However, in line with the international trend of increasing non-aeronautical revenue, the airport operators, from time to time, take up commercial exploitation of available land within the limits imposed by the applicable laws. Presently, Airports Authority of India has plans for city side development of select 24 non-metro airports *viz* Ahmedabad, Amritsar, Guwahati, Jaipur, Udaipur, Trivandrum, Lucknow, Madurai, Mangalore, Aurangabad, Khajuraho, Rajkot, Vadodara, Bhopal, Indore, Raipur, Vizag, Trichy, Bhubanesawar, Varanasi, Agartala, Dehradun, Ranchi and Dimapur through Public Private Partnership (PPP). Further, Delhi International Airport Ltd. has plans to develop a Hospitality District at IGI Airport, New Delhi.